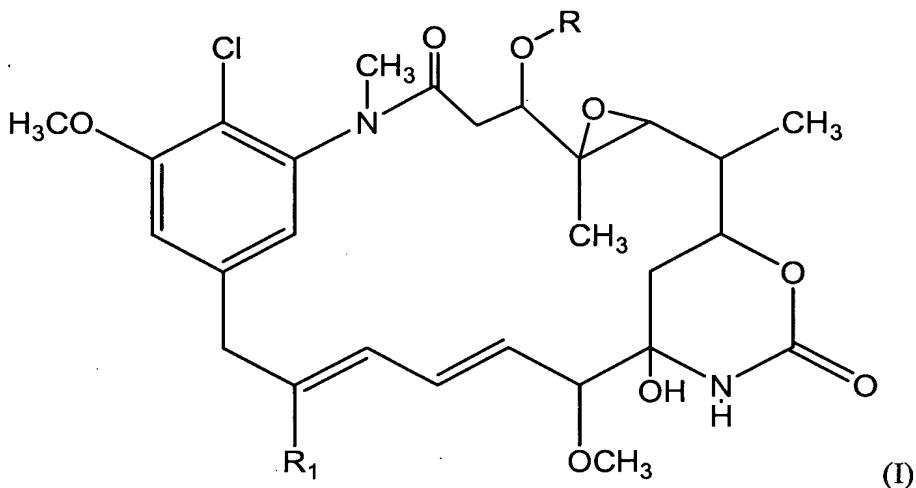


*Sub a3* Claim 1. A bacterium having the biological characteristics of the bacterium deposited with the ATCC on December 11, 2001, under the accession number PTA-3921.

Claim 2. A method for producing an ansamitocin, which comprises cultivating the bacterium of claim 1 in a culture medium comprising a suitable carbon source.

5 Claim 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said ansamitocin is one or more ansamitocins of formula (I) or isomers thereof:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, acetyl, propionyl, isobutyryl, butyryl, and isovaleryl, and R1 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, 10 and hydroxymethyl.

Claim 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said ansamitocin is predominantly ansamitocin P-3 and said carbon source comprises one or more carbon sources selected from the group consisting of valine, isobutyric acid, isobutyl alcohol, and isobutylaldehyde.

*add a4*